

AIRCRAFT-MISSILES DIVISION
HAGERSTOWN 10, MARYLAND
AREA CODE 301 • 733-3600

FAIRCHILD MILLER
formerly

**FAIRCHILD
STRATOS**

February 2, 1965

Ref.: AVD 3000

Air America,
815 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C. 20006

REC'D WAS FEB 3 1965

ATTN: George A. Doole, Jr.,
Managing Director.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the draft of a news release we would like to
issue, in line with our discussion during my recent visit.

I would appreciate your reviewing and approving the release
so that we can promptly issue it.

Sincerely,

Vernon Davis

A. Vernon Davis, Manager
Public Relations & Advertising.

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE ☐ DATE:
23-Sep-2009

REC'D WAS FEB 3 1965

PR-4-106

The Fairchild Hiller Corporation today announced an aviation first. One of its Turbo-Porters has become the first single-engine turbine-powered aircraft to fly the Atlantic.

Enroute to the Far East for service with Air America, Inc., the Turbo-Porter traveled nearly 2,500 miles over water from Newfoundland to Gibraltar, with a fueling stop in the Azores. Total time in the air was 21 hours.

The precedent-setting Turbo-Porter is now completing a 10,000 mile ferrying flight from the United States to Thailand where it will go into service carrying passengers and cargo ~~(between Vientiane, Saigon and Bangkok)~~. Air America has ordered 5 Turbo-Porters from Fairchild Hiller's Aircraft-Missiles Division at Hagerstown, Md. for utility operations in Thailand, Laos, ~~(Cambodia)~~ and South Vietnam. ~~(George A. Deele, Jr., managing director of)~~ Air America, said the Turbo-Porter was selected because of its exceptional short field capability. Carrying a useful load of 2,580 pounds, it takes off within 360 feet and lands within 180 feet. ^{A.P.M.} ^{T.S.C.} Deele said his new Turbo-Porter fleet will be used in primitive areas where landing fields are extremely limited.

With headquarters in Washington, D. C., Air America operates a large variety of aircraft over routes radiating throughout the Far East. ~~(In 1959, it purchased Civil Air Transport which had been founded by the late Claire Chennault.)~~ ^{NO!!}

The Turbo-Porter, which can carry as many as 8 people, was specially fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks for its trans-Atlantic flight. Three 94-gallon metal tanks were installed in the cabin, each feeding into the main fuel cells in the wings.

The Turbo-Porter is 36 feet long with a wing span of 49 feet 10 inches. The airframe is of all-metal construction with large double loading doors on each side of the fuselage. The aircraft purchased by Air America are powered by 530-horsepower Astazon II turbine engines. Fairchild Hiller is also marketing the aircraft with Pratt-Whitney PT-6 and Garrett TPE331 turbine powerplants, and with two versions of Lycoming piston engines, one supercharged.